

**REMARKS**

I. Introduction

Claims 1-11 were previously canceled. Claims 28 and 29 were previously withdrawn from consideration and have been officially canceled herein. No new claims have been added. Consequently, claims 12-27 are pending in the instant application. Applicant has carefully studied the Office action and, as set forth more specifically below, believes that each of the present rejections has been addressed in good faith and has been sufficiently overcome.

Applicant additionally notes that the parent case has now issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,126,886.

II. Election/Restriction Affirmation

Applicant affirms the election of the Group I, claims 12-27.

Claims 28 and 29, the non-elected claims of Group II, have been officially canceled in this Amendment.

III. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 21-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by Beck et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,126,886 (**Beck**).

Among other distinctions, **Beck** does not disclose, or otherwise teach or suggest, the formation of a container with a planar inner edge and an inner radial edge that intersect to form a substantially perpendicular corner forming a substantially square corner in cross section, as set forth in presently amended claim 21.

Claims 22-27 depend, directly from claim 21 and are therefore also not anticipated by **Beck**.

Accordingly, the rejection under Section 102 is believed to have been sufficiently overcome and withdrawal of that rejection is requested.

IV. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 12-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over **Beck** in view of Akutsu, U.S. Patent No. 4,293,520 (**Akutsu**).

Again, among other distinctions, **Beck** does not disclose, or otherwise teach or suggest, a preform that is formed by molding at least a portion of a sheet against a mold surface and separating it from the sheet. **Beck** further fails to disclose, or otherwise teach or suggest, the formation of a container with a planar inner edge and an inner radial edge that intersect to form a substantially perpendicular corner forming a substantially square corner in cross section, as presently claimed in amended claim 12. **Akutsu** is merely cited for the proposition of forming parison from a sheet. **Akutsu** does not, *inter alia*, disclose, teach or otherwise suggest the identified deficiencies noted with respect to **Beck**.

Claims 13-20 depend, directly from claim 12 and therefore are also unobvious and patentable in view of the **Beck** and **Akutsu** references, whether taken alone or in any permissible combination.

Accordingly, the rejection under Section 103 is also believed to have been sufficiently overcome and withdrawal of that rejection is requested.

V. Conclusion

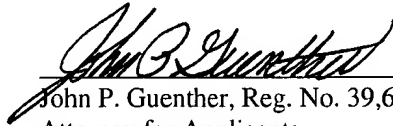
In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application further clarify the claims which are now believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejections of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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Customer No. 010291

Telephone No. (248) 593-3310

  
John P. Guenther, Reg. No. 39,698  
Attorney for Applicants  
RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC  
39533 Woodward Avenue, Suite 140  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304

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